



## The Daily Standard.

Friday, September 22, 1872.

### The Ballot in England.

For the first time in England's history the ballot has been employed at an election of a member to represent a constituency in the House of Commons. The borough upon which this distinction fell is called Pontefract, a small place containing in all about 3,000 voters, and the candidates were Mr. Calder, a member of the Conservative Cabinet, and Lord Polington, "whose sole claim to represent that borough rested on the fact that his family owned a property in the neighborhood." We are told that the election excited keen interest—it was a fight between a considerable Minister and a strong hereditary influence, and was watched hour by hour by all England, intent on seeing how the Ballot worked. The Liberal party, to whom the people of England are indebted for the Ballot, no doubt watched the progress of the experiment in this initiative trial with anxiety, knowing how every movement would be watched and every fault be magnified by the Conservatives with a view to prejudices the public mind against it and pave the way for the restoration of the good old system of open voting, by which the poor dependent elector neither enjoyed the liberty of voting according to his conscientious convictions nor of abstaining from voting if he so inclined. One great merit claimed for the measure—merchandise it promised to put a stop to bribes and disorders so prevalent at elections, and in this instance the promise has been entirely fulfilled. Nothing, we are told, could have been duller than the nomination day, and nothing could have been duller than the election day. The election itself was in the highest degree orderly—no tumult, no drunkenness, no noisy rowdyism, no street mole. The process of voting is described as both secret and safe, and the general impression appears to have been that much harm was spent in buying or corrupting voters, for the reason that very little money was seen in the possession of electors, although Pontefract has in days gone by been notorious as a place for bribery. If peace, order, sobriety, and the exercise of reason without intimidation are evidences of an improved condition of affairs at an election, where drunkenness, rowdyism, bribery, and gross corruption used to exert a controlling influence, then it cannot be denied that this first use of the Ballot has fully met the most sanguine expectations of those who have all along advocated its adoption. It is quite evident that the machinery employed in the practical working of the principle is very defective, and that before the full advantages to be reaped therefrom can be made available those defects will have to be remedied, which no doubt they will be as experience points them out. The Conservative press, as might have been expected, do not see anything to admire in the Ballot after its trial any more than it did before the principle became law. The *Spectator* says, "The more carefully politicians study the result of the Pontefract election, the less comfort will they derive from it as to the operation of the Ballot. The three *a priori* objections raised against that method of election—that it would diminish the total vote thrown—that is, the moral right of the member to consider himself a representative; that it would break up the tacit understanding in favor of an old system in which the attraction of a parliamentarian was predominant, and that it would release the electors from the healthy control of national opinion, have all been shown to be well founded." It seems that out of 1600 electors on the rolls only 123 recorded their votes, and hence it is claimed by the Conservatives that one striking illustration of the pernicious influence of the Ballot is to be seen in the fact that one-third of the electors voluntarily disfranchised themselves, and that Mr. Calder, though returned, cannot be sure that he is the choice of a majority of the people. Surely, Mr. Calder has a right to assume that those who did not vote against him were for him. Had they wished to defeat him, their doubts would have given expression to their wish by going to the polls and depositing their ballots in favor of his opponent. On the other hand, had there been open voting and Lord Polington been in a position to bring his personal and family influence to bear in the contest, doubtless by bribery and intimidation, it is quite possible that many who gave a honest vote for Calder would have given a reluctant vote for Polington, and that young sprig of nobility have been to-day the member for Pontefract instead of the able and experienced gentleman who now represents that borough. The Standard says, "The great and substantial fact is that, as was asserted so strongly by the opponents of the measure, its effect is to disdiscourage the electors to take the trouble to vote. They cannot show plainly for whom they vote, and they do not care, therefore, to vote at all. They object to secrecy for itself, for they are unwilling to incur the imputation of falsehood which might possibly attach under against them, if a candidate with an apparent majority of promises were beaten." It further says, "Nothing can be more mischievous than such a tendency, and if the general effect of the Ballot is to materially lessen the interest of a large portion of the constituency in an election, and to keep them from the polling booths, the measure, were its operation in every other respect satisfactory, it would prove itself most injurious, we may even say most dangerous." It was remarked that the classes which most generally abstained from voting on the occasion referred to were the illiterate, the rowdy, and those who had their votes hoping to obtain for them a consideration; and speaking of those classes, and their influence as voters, the Manchester *Examiner* truly observes: "Corrupt votes, ignorant votes and votes recorded in mere indistinct, without

any adequate political convictions at the back of them, are bad things, frauds with mischief to the nation, and the more we have of them the better. If he is ignorant; if he does not understand the political values of the issues his vote is to decide; and if he is so apathetic and careless as not to care much whether he votes at all; it is absolutely better that he should abstain from voting, and by so doing as will accomplish his own act precisely what the Legislature has striven to secure by positive law. Unless we have greatly overestimated the extent of corruption hitherto practised at contested elections, the number of votes that have been paid solely for the price they would fetch must be very large. But, so far as the Ballot puts a stop to bribing, these votes will have lost the only value which made them appreciated by their owners, and as there is no demand for them, they may be expected to disappear from the market. To what extent the 'abstention' which takes place under the Ballot may be due to this source they will deserve to be held a fitful devout thanksgiving as so much rottenness eliminated from the body politic."

### New Advertisements.

## THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

ESTABLISHED 1825.  
CONSTITUTED BY SPECIAL ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

**Special Notice.**  
THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS YEAR will close on 15th NOVEMBER, 1872, and in order to secure the advantage of this year's entry to the Profit Scheme, proposals should be lodged with the Agents on or before that date. The next Division of Profits will take place in 1873.

**THE STANDARD** is one of the oldest and most extensive Institutions existing in Great Britain for the Assurance of Lives. It was established in 1825, and now holds a prominent position in the Funds, invested chiefly in Mortgages on the security of Lands, amount to upwards of Four Millions Pounds. The Surplus Funds of 4,000,000 £s. are invested in the Public Funds of the United Kingdom of Great Britain & Ireland, amounting to 2,000,000 £s.

**ANNUAL REPORT** 1872.

The following results were communicated in the Report:  
Amount proposed for Assurance during the year 1871 £1,200,000 Premiums, £1,200,000 Total Premiums, £1,200,000 Policies in force 1872 £1,600,000 Policies in force 1871 £1,600,000 Annual Premiums on new Policies during the year 1872 £1,600,000 Policies in force 1872 £1,600,000 Premiums by Date of Policy 1871, except Premiums on Policies of 1870 £1,600,000 Premiums by Date of Policy 1872 £1,600,000 Amount of Assurance accepted during the last five years £1,600,000 Premiums on Policies accepted at 15th November, 1871 £1,600,000 Premiums on Policies accepted at 15th November, 1872 £1,600,000 Total Premiums on Policies accepted at 15th November, 1871 £1,600,000 Total Premiums on Policies accepted at 15th November, 1872 £1,600,000 Premiums on Policies accepted at 15th November, 1873 £1,600,000 Premiums on Policies accepted at 15th November, 1874 £1,600,000 Premiums on Policies accepted at 15th November, 1875 £1,600,000 Premiums on Policies accepted at 15th November, 1876 £1,600,000 Premiums 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## The Daily Standard

Friday, September 27, 1872.

### Shipping Intelligence.

PORT OF VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

**ARRIVED.**

Sept 26—*St. John's*, from Fort Victoria, Bear Islands, New Westminster.

**CLEARED.**

Sept 26—*Highland*, from Victoria.

**ARRIVED.**

At Victoria, Sept. 26—*Thomas Fife*, a native of Scotland. April 6.

The general will be present the day after P. M., now permitted to stand.

**Latest Concerning the Man-Jeans Question.**

**Reliable intelligence and later than any published has just been received, which is to the effect that it is uncertain yet as to whether he has been given to Japan and the adjacent islands; but it is far from our point of view that the United States will most likely obtain the group.**

**However.** At latest dates Mr. George Pauchant was still in the above city, giving readings. Miss Rose Brooks and Mr. James Cleverton were giving entertainments at the Royal Hawaiian Theatre. The F. barque *Nouveau Monde* has been purchased in San Francisco by J. C. Fletcher Co., agents of the S. L. Whaling Line. She is now under the American flag and is bound for the Philippines.

The Convict, hourly expected at this port from Honolulu, was 20 days from the mouth of the Straits to Honolulu. Hello-Go-De La Hondo. In this city last year, is expected at the Islands, en route from the Australian colonies. The U. S. ship Pensacola and Fresco were looked for. A Hawaiian state just enacted, prohibits the use of giant powder for fishing in the waters of the Kingdom.

**Naval.**—The Repulse, flagship, was at Madeira on the 11th August, on her voyage to this station. The Scylla left Panama on the 11th of same month, and may be expected here daily, as the Chancillon made the passage from Panama to Esquimalt in 49 days, in the latter part of 1866.

The *Poole* had been hourly expected here to cover our statement of yesterday, with regard to the match at rifle shooting.

The Boxer, had the Boot, we should have stated, and not the Sparrowhawk.

**Tas Victoria (V.I.) Daily STANDARD says:**

"Mr. E. French having been appointed Clerk of the Bank, and Government agent at Lillooet, the services of the Chief Constable, Mr. Keane, who has been an efficient officer of the Government for the past 15 years, are depredated with. He has been offered the position of Superintendent of Police at this city. The Mr. T. T. T. referred to in the above is a St. John boy, whose many friends in this city and Fredericton will be glad to hear him do well."

**Burnett COLUMBIA ELECTORATE.**—Our afternoon dispatches contain the intelligence that Messrs. DeGraw and Nathan, the late members, have been re-elected for Victoria, B. C., after a exciting contest. We are pleased to learn this as Mr. DeGraw is one of the most able and intelligent members of the House, while Mr. Nathan, though a young man, deserved absolute election of Parliament with credit to himself.—Ottawa Free Press, Sat.

**From the South.**—The North Pacific arrived at 3 p. m. yesterday, from Olympia and way ports, with forty-five passengers and a small freight. She leaves at four o'clock this morning on her return trip. Passengers—Messrs. Wilson, McKey, White Irving, Dwyer, Ryden, Lambert, Remond, Bowditch, Fisher, Anderson, Morrison, Owen, Wilks, Peter Bratt, and McElroy, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Gorish, G. W. White.

**From H.M.S. Zealotes.**—A private letter received in town informs us that the Zealotes was in the harbor of Coquille, O. S., at date of communication, Aug. 4th. On the 21st July, a large vessel, the *Star of India*, 2000 tons, collided with a rock, and lost 1000 barrels of cotton on board. She was run aground and sank, and required a total loss, nothing remaining of her but her iron work.

**The Ottawa Citizen.**—The Ministers were to assemble as soon as possible after the 3rd, (they met on the 9th), and dispose of all public business on hand. After that it was possible Sir John A. Macdonald would leave for England to be sworn in a Privy Councillor. No doubt British Columbia officials would be attended to in the Cabinet meetings.

**CHARTERS.**—The steamer North Pacific, after Monday next, will be at the command of the Directors of the N. P. Railway, for a week, who are shortly expected at Olympia in connection with matters pertaining to that Railway. The steamer will be over on Monday next, by the fastest or some other steamer.

**From New Westminster.**—The steamer came in early yesterday afternoon from New Westminster with a mail, express and the following passengers: Mr. Fletcher, Mrs. Post, Mr. Leeson, Mrs. Simpson, Miss Farnie, Mrs. Cowling, Lawson, Howes, Vasey and Partridge.

**Mr. A. G. Ricmanow.** formerly of this city, has arrived in London from Paris, where he had been connected with the American Register. He is now agent in London for the Swiss Time, a journal having branch offices in the chief cities of the Continent of Europe.

**Tale Elector.**—The election for the Commons in the Yale-Lytton District came off on Wednesday. At Yale, Mr. Downey received 11 votes; Mr. Smith, 1. The other polling divisions are yet to be heard from. [Additional in our telegrams.]

**Passengers booked for Prince Alfred.**—Mrs. F. Garscadden and son, Barra H. Wood, J. Duck, J. Daniel, Mrs. Stanford, Miss Stamford, C. Stanford, B. R. Wood, D. W. McLeod, J. Smeaton, Post Office Inspector Dowe, E. Lang.

**Discusses.**—Mr. Thomas Felton Farmer is the Methodist District, and well known in town, died yesterday morning after a lingering illness, at the residence of Mr. Holston. The remains will be interred to-day.

**Twenty prisoners will be taken up by the Enterprise this morning to be lodged in the New Westminster gaol, the Victoria prison being overcrowded.**

**Auction.**—The cattle sale at the Cattle Sale Yard of Messrs. J. E. Davies & Co., advertised to take place to-morrow, is unavoidably postponed until Thursday, October 10th.

**WASHINGTON TERRITORY.**—Nothing new in our exchanges.

## Mainland Scrapes.

The N. W. Herald has an article on the indemnity question (it is interesting enough) which is probably inspired by the editor of a "local print." An arrival from Kamloops says everybody is busy in that neighborhood, and money is plentiful. The wagon road was expected to be completed to the head of the river in a few days. Mr. Holston will not be long in getting there. It is necessary that the necessary steps to place New Westminster under the provisions of the Municipal Act, are being taken by the Government. Orders have been received to have the Camp buildings "straightened up," and protected from the incade of cattle, etc.

The rifle match for Mr. Holston's gold medal will be shot for at New Westminster on October 6th; Mr. Bonson, now holds the prize.

The mountains up country have received their first snow, and the Governor and his diversions at Hope. The Governor and his diversions at Hope.

**At Shawan.**—Mr. George Pauchant, a native of Scotland, April 6.

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**However.** At latest dates Mr. George

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**Nouveau Monde** has been purchased in

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**Kingdom.**

**Naval.**—The Repulse, flagship, was at

**Madeira on the 11th August, on her**

**voyage to this station.**

**The Scylla** left Panama on the 11th

**August, a sail for wages.** Blundell,

**William Monk,** an remand charged with

**homicide, selling; discharged.** Henry Ran-

**doon on remand, charged with forging**

**the name of Mr. H. Rowland, in order**

**to obtain \$200; sent up for trial.**

**A foolish old man,** charged with being a

**scandalous person of ill fame, was remanded**

**for three days.**

**A Manross** despatch states that it is

**expected that Attorney General Clarke, and**

**President Riel, will retire from the**

**constituency of Provencher, and allow Sir**

**Geo. E. Cartier to be elected unopposed.**

**Some speculation is being indulged in, as to**

**what time the Parliament will reassemble.**

**It is generally conceded that it is not likely to**

**be called together for the despatch of business**

**before February.**

**Ma. Dawn, Post-office Inspector, takes his**

**departure for Ottawa, by this morning's**

**steamer, having assimilated the department**

**in this Province with that of the Eastern**

**Provinces.**

**The Spanish Agricultural Show comes off**

**on Wednesday next.** It is expected to be

**interesting as at usual.** A dinner will

**be given to the guests.** Mr. Thompson's farm

**A Magazine, to be published in this city**

**at regular intervals, and in connection with**

**the Church of England in this Province.**

**Our Ottawa Letter will appear to-morrow.**

**British Columbia.**

**[From the Ottawa Times.]**

**We publish close to-day an article from**

**the Victoria Wauchope Standard on the then**

**forthcoming elections in British Columbia.**

**As will be seen, the Standard admits**

**politically the people of the Province are all**

**of one mind; they are all in favor of**

**the existing Government of the Dominion.**

**There can be no better proof of this than the**

**adhesion of the three candidates.**

**—[We are**

**not**

**surprised.**

**—[We are**

